CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol 10, No. 7 TORONTO, FEBRUARY 14, 1945 $2.00 Per Annum

Toronto Ban On Owls Opposed

Exhibs Weren't Given Chance To State Negative Position

Toronto exhibitors will oppose the action of the Board of Police Commissioners, since approved by the City Council, in seeking a ban on midnight shows in the city. Mayor Robert H. Saunders, a member of both bodies, favored the ban, which was opposed by Controllers Wadsworth and Smith; Aldermen Freed, Sims and Phillips.

Under provincial law the Board of Police Commissioners has power over theatres in municipalities with a population of 100,000 or more.

The Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario has retained Joseph Sedgwick, K.C., to voice the opposition of those af-

(Continued on Page 17)

Sam Angelini Killed

Sam Angelini, former member of the staff of the Tivoli, Hamilton, was killed in action over Holland on New Year's Day. He was a Pilot Officer.

CLAIR HAGUE PASSES

Clair Hague, 59, representative of Universal in Canada and president of the Moving Picture Pioneers, passed away at the Lockwood Clinic, Toronto, on February 8.

His passing will cause much mourning throughout the Canadian show world, for he was one of its best known and most highly regarded figures.

He was laid to rest at St. John's Norway, Toronto, on February 10.

The late Mr. Hague is survived by his wife; daughters Irma, Natalie and Gwendolyn; and sons Arnold and Ray.

No Reshuffle in Sask. Distrib'n

Rumors that the Saskatchewan government had under consideration a measure that would force film companies to establish a distribution centre in Regina for that province have not been confirmed nor has anything been made known that would indicate

(Continued on Page 10)

VC Winners Get Lifetime Passes

Executives of Famous Players, J. J. Fitzgibbons, R. W. Bolstad and James R. Nairn who journeyed to Vancouver to attend the dinner in honor of the 25 Year Club members from Vancouver and Victoria had a busy time during their stay on the coast.

(Continued on Page 2)

Show Collection For Red Cross

Canadian exhibitors have decided to support the request of the Canadian Red Cross for collections in theatres as a "clean-up" campaign following the regular national campaign, which will end on March 24. The time suggested for theatre participa-

(Continued on Page 2)

Honor Masters At Luncheon

Haskell M. Masters, whose resignation from the Nathanson organization was officially announced last week, was the guest of honor at a farewell luncheon tendered by the executives and department heads of Odeon Theatres of Canada, of which he was

(Continued on Page 10)

Conciliation KO'd Indies Claim

The work of conciliation is over and conciliation is officially dead, it was agreed at the annual meeting of the Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Ontario, held last week at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

The meeting went on record as favoring the rigid enforcement of Wartime Prices and Trade Board regulations, vigilance against ceilings being pierced and imposition of penalties if they are, and the retention of the regulations for many years after the war.

Opposition against the rumored amusement tax in Ontario was declared by the gathering and a committee was appointed to represent the organization in anti-tax action. Members of the committee are Ben Freedman, Louis

(Continued on Page 10)

Western FPCC 25rs Meet in Vanc'r

The 25th anniversary party held in Toronto on January 23rd was duplicated in the Vancouver Hotel, Vancouver, B.C., one week later. The committee in charge of western arrangements spared no trouble in creating an eye-filling setting for the presentation of awards to the members of the 25 Year Club from Vancouver and Victoria.

Among the special guests for the occasion were J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players; R. W. Bolstad, vice-president; James R. Nairn, director of publicity; Mayor and Mrs. J. W. Cornett; Senator and Mrs. J. W. de B. Farris; the Hon. Mr. Chief Justice and Mrs. W. B. Farris; Mr. M. E. Nichols, vice-president and publisher, Vancouver Daily Province; Mr. George Cran, vice-

(Continued on Page 10)

Midnight Shows

The Toronto Board of Police Commissioners has banned the midnight show at the request of Chief of Police Draper, one of whose sergeants stated that it was difficult questioning young people during early hours because "They say they are coming from midnight shows and there is nothing much we can do."

There is something they can do. They can leave the young people alone—unless there is an immediate reason for questioning them. It would seem that they regard any-

(Continued on Page 2)

Mail Your 'Ten Bests' Ballot Back Now!

She Gets Her Man Starring Radio's scream queen, Joan Davis, on the trail of a killer-diller in mystery's greatest laugh hunt. Yes sir, it's Sheriff Joan on the roam . . . and look who's in the cast—William Gargan, Leon Errol, Vivian Austin and Bob Allen. Book it now through EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL!

Film Weekly

Vol. 10, No. 7 Feb. 14, 1945

HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

Address all communications—The Managing Editor, Canadian Film Weekly, 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Canada.

Published by Film Publications of Canada Ltd., 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Phone ADelaide 4317. Price 5 cents each or $2.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter.

Printed by Eveready Printers Limited, 78 Wellington Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

Midnight Shows

(Continued from Page 1)

one who choses to be out after midnight as questionable characters subject to investigation. That's nonsense.

Even though Mayor Saunders says that midnight shows constitute a definite menace, it's a safe wager that any patron of such movies he cares to pick at random is every bit as respectable and home-loving as the mayor himself. Or any other member of the police commission. Or the police force. How about the people you find in restaurants at the time midnight shows are on? Have they some dire reason for being up late and should they be questioned?

What if some patrons of midnight shows are not good citizens? Is there any public assembly which does not attract some such persons? If that is any reason for stopping midnight shows, then it is every bit as logical for the Parks Department to ban picnics because some folks litter the grounds.

It is time that the authority of police commissions was examined to determine its limits. Such a matter as depriving thousands of people of their entertainment is one for a public vote.

Those who were about to be affected should have been notified of the commission's intention and given a chance to state their case. This was not done.

We live in a democracy and it ill behooves any public body to depart from its spirit in these times.

What About War Workers?

Many patrons of midnight shows are war workers who are employed on shift work and others are soldiers on leave.

The question of midnight shows for war workers was under discussion during the summer of 1943 and the Workers' Educational Association organized several during mid-week. This move was in keeping with a suggestion from the Ontario government. The shows were discontinued because theatre men ran into a help shortage.

Drummond Wren, secretary of the Workers' Educational Association, in a letter to the Globe and Mail, quoted the views of shift workers as expressed by one of them in the New Advance Magazine:

"Some of us would sit in restaurants drinking coffee and smoking endlessly. Mostly we just groused and hated the 4 to 12 shift, growing more irritable and less efficient till our two weeks' stint was finished. Some of us were absentees.

"The question couldn't be solved by going straight to bed and getting up early for a matinee. Years of conditioning to recreation after working hours plus the need of going to work refreshed after eight hours' sleep makes a further upset in a shift worker's life both impractical and undesirable."

Would the police commission rather have some of these workers passing the time in booze joints for want of better forms of entertainment?

What about soldiers who get a 24-hour leave starting at 6 p.m. Aren't they entitled to some consideration?

Many persons sleep late on Sundays and can attend midnight shows without any great loss of sleep. Let them be the judge of their own conduct. As for Magistrate Brown's opinion that six show nights are enough, it doesn't seem to coincide with that of some 7,000 theatregoers, most of whom, we think, are capable of thinking for themselves.

We still have the right of free assembly in Canada. So long as it does not hinder with the war effort, no non-elective body should interfere with it.

Show Collection For Red Cross

(Continued from Page 1)

tion is from March 26 to 31.

Collections from theatre audiences in behalf of the Red Cross is an old practice in the United States. The only city where it is followed in Canada is Montreal.

The lights will go up and the support solicited on one or more evenings during the local Red Cross drive. The actual collection will be made by Red Cross workers.

Two trailers will be distributed, one for showing in all theatres and the other, an "appeal" trailer, in those theatres sponsoring collections.

Provincial chairmen of the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee will distribute pledge cards to determine the number of "appeal" trailer prints necessary.

Opinion of exhibitors with regard to collections was determined by J. J. Fitzgibbons, chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee, at meetings held in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina and Winnipeg.

Jack Weston Missing

Lieut. John M. Weston, prior to his enlistment a member of the staff of the Parkdale, Toronto, is reported missing following air operations.

20th Grabs McKenny Yarn for Miss Crain

"Maggie," an original story by Ruth McKenney, author of "My Sister Eileen," has been purchased by Twentieth-Fox as a starrer for Jeanne Crain. Production and direction chores have not yet been assigned.

VOCALITE SCREENS

Five times more sound permeability.

One-third more light.

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VC Winners Get Lifetime Passes

(Continued from Page 1)

Mr. Fitzgibbons addressed a meeting of the War Services Committee and was guest of honor at a luncheon of the Vancouver Rotary Club at which he was the principal speaker. At the conclusion of the dinner, the chairman remarked that he had read with great interest in Liberty that Mr. Fitzgibbons was a Western picture fan and solemnly presented him with a pass for a Roy Rogers picture — in an Odeon house.

Highlight of the trip was when Private "Smokey" Smith, V.C., the one-man war from New Westminster, visited Vancouver to receive from Mr. Fitzgibbons a life pass to all FPCC theatres.

Famous Players will give life passes, the first time such passes have ever been issued, to all Canadians who win the Victoria Cross in this war.

For durability and in commemoration of the company's Silver Jubilee, the passes are engraved sterling silver plates enclosed in leather cases. The inscription reads:

Presented to Pte. A. E. Smith, V.C. by the President and Directors of FAMOUS PLAYERS CANADIAN CORPORATION LTD. On behalf of the men and women of Famous Players in Canada's armed forces—in recognition of his service to his country.

On the reverse side:

LIFE TIME PASS
issued to
Pte. A. E. Smith, V.C.
Will be honored at all regular performances in all theatres under the direction of Famous Players.

Famous Players managers from Vancouver were guests at a special luncheon when they were addressed by Mr. Fitzgibbons and a luncheon for the press of Vancouver, attended by publishers, editors, columnists and reporters, was addressed by James R. Nairn.

Haver Has Renewal

20th-Fox has renewed its option on June Haver for another year.

Inspection Branch Wants Rap Raised

Magistrate Woodliffe fined Tom Waterfield, manager of the Eastwood, Toronto suburban B & F house, $20 for overcrowding the aisles. That's the minimum.

Prosecution arose out of the findings of an inspector of the Theatre Inspection branch, who acted according to the The Theatres and Cinematographs Act of the Province of Ontario.

But the branch isn't satisfied and is considering an appeal because the manager, it claims, got off too lightly.

The maximum is $200.

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hits an energetic stride for 1945 with the biggest of all its productions

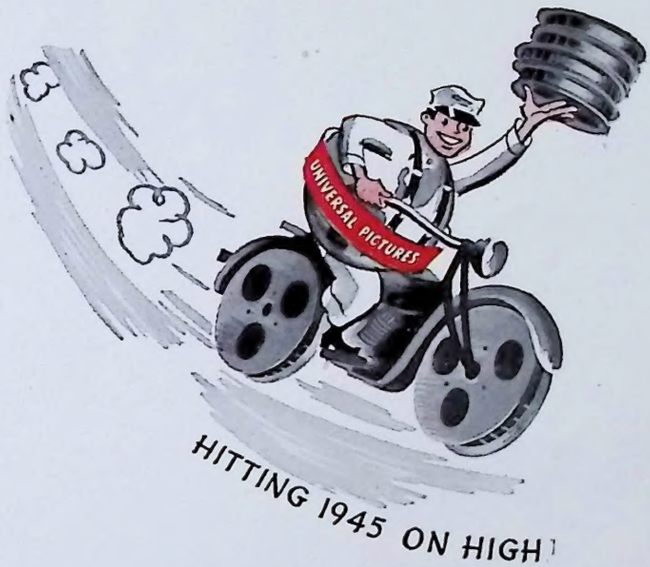
"CAN'T HELP SINGING,"

paralleled by such boxoffice attractions

as "THE SUSPECT,"

"HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN"

and "SHE GETS HER MAN"



all in circulation now . . .

OUR ENTHUSIASM FOR "CAN'T HELP SINGING" IS WELL FOUNDED

We felt that "Can't Help Singing" would be the biggest picture Universal has ever had. We also felt it would prove to be the most entertaining and the most satisfying to exhibitors and customers. All business returns prove this to be correct. "Can't Help Singing" has broken every record of every Universal picture in the engagements it has played so far.

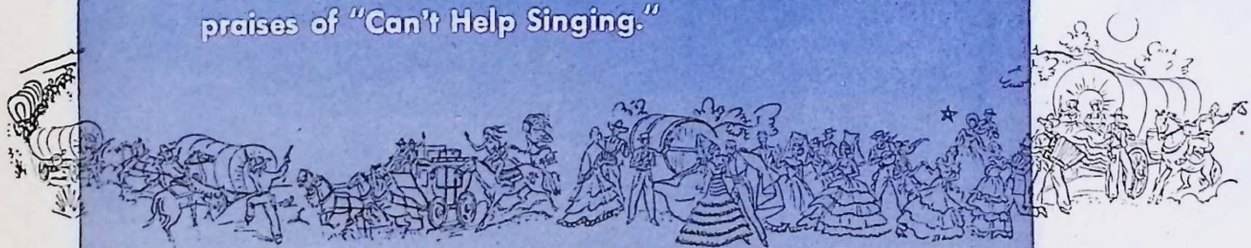
It has also received fine critical acclaim, and we are very happy about the fact that many critics refer to it as the best Deanna Durbin picture ever made.

In the New York Daily Mirror, Frank Quinn referred to "Can't Help Singing" as "Filmdom's 'Oklahoma.'"

No wonder we "Can't Help Singing" the praises of "Can't Help Singing."

Held over in all first engagements!





Deanna DURBIN

CAN'T HELP SINGING

IN TECHNICOLOR

with ROBERT PAIGE

AKIM TAMIROFF

DAVID BRUCE LEONID KINSKEY RAY COLLINS JUNE VINCENT ANDREW TOMBES THOMAS GOMEZ

Directed by FRANK RYAN *Produced by* FELIX JACKSON *Assoc. Producer* FRANK SHAW *Music by* JEROME KERN *Lyrics by* E. Y. HARBURG

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Screen Play by LEWIS R. FOSTER and FRANK RYAN • Story by John Klorer, Leo Townsend • Based on "Girl of the Overland Trail" by Samuel J. and Curtis B. Warshawsky

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"LAUGHTON'S BEST PORTRAYAL"
—Daily Variety

"'The SUSPECT' looks like SMASH BOXOFFICE!"
—Variety

"A SUPERB THRILLER"—Motion Picture Daily

"EXCELLENT"—Motion Picture Herald



"THE SUSPECT"
is a motion picture
about a matter
that every husband
and every wife
are keenly
interested in
but never
talk about

Charles LAUGHTON · Ella RAINES
in
The SUSPECT
with
DEAN HARENS · STANLEY C. RIDGES
HENRY DANIELL · ROSALIND IVAN

Screen Play by Bertram Millhauser
From a novel by James Ronald
Produced by ISLIN AUSTER

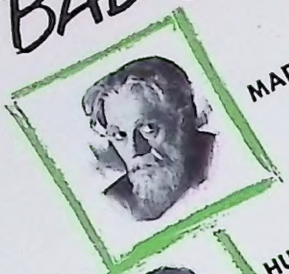
Adaptation by Arthur T. Horman
Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK
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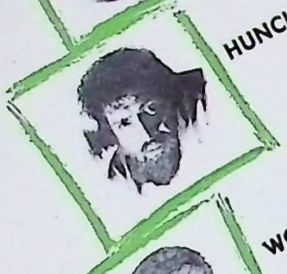
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BAD BOYS MAKE GOOD!

Cheerful news about these terrible people!....



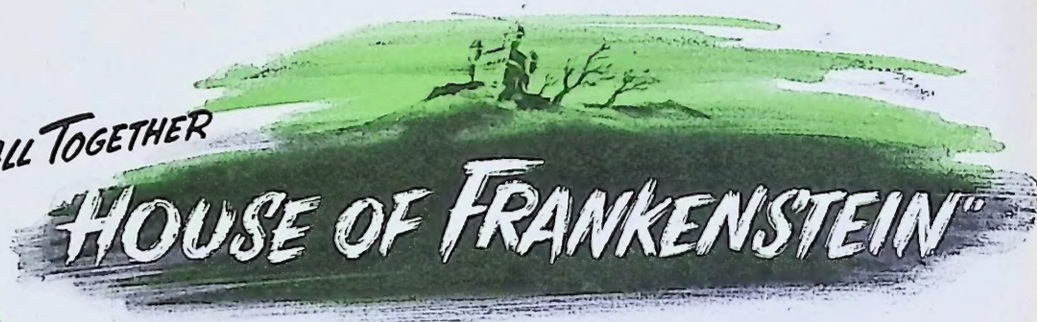






"House of Frankenstein," Universal's horror classic starring all its Titans of Terror, has broken all existing records at the RIALTO THEATRE on BROADWAY, NEW YORK. This again proves that Universal knows when and how to make this type of boxoffice bonanza.

We really believe that "House of Frankenstein" is headed for an all-time record for horror pictures... So, brother, don't be wary of this scary. You, too, can play it!



starring

BORIS KARLOFF • LON CHANEY with **JOHN CARRADINE • J. CARROL NAISH**

ANNE GWYNNE • PETER COE • ELENA VERDUGO • LIONEL ATWILL

Screen Play by Edward T. Lowe • Directed by ERLE C. KENTON • Produced by PAUL MALVERN • Based on a Story by Curt Siodmak

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE



A BIG LAUGH HIT!

"Joan Davis, voted 'Best Comedienne' in Motion Picture Daily's recent radio poll, proves equally adept on the screen in 'She Gets Her Man,' with a fresh, infectious style that evokes hilarity and merriment." —MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"'She Gets Her Man' offers two immediate claims to widespread acclamation." —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Slapstick throughout, it's escapist entertainment first to last, a credit to everyone concerned with its making." —DAILY VARIETY

with

WILLIAM GARGAN

LEON ERROL

Vivian Austin • Milburn Stone • Ian Keith

Russell Hicks *and* Bob Allen

Original Screen Play by Warren Wilson and Clyde Bruckman

Additional Dialogue by Ray Singer and Dick Chevillat

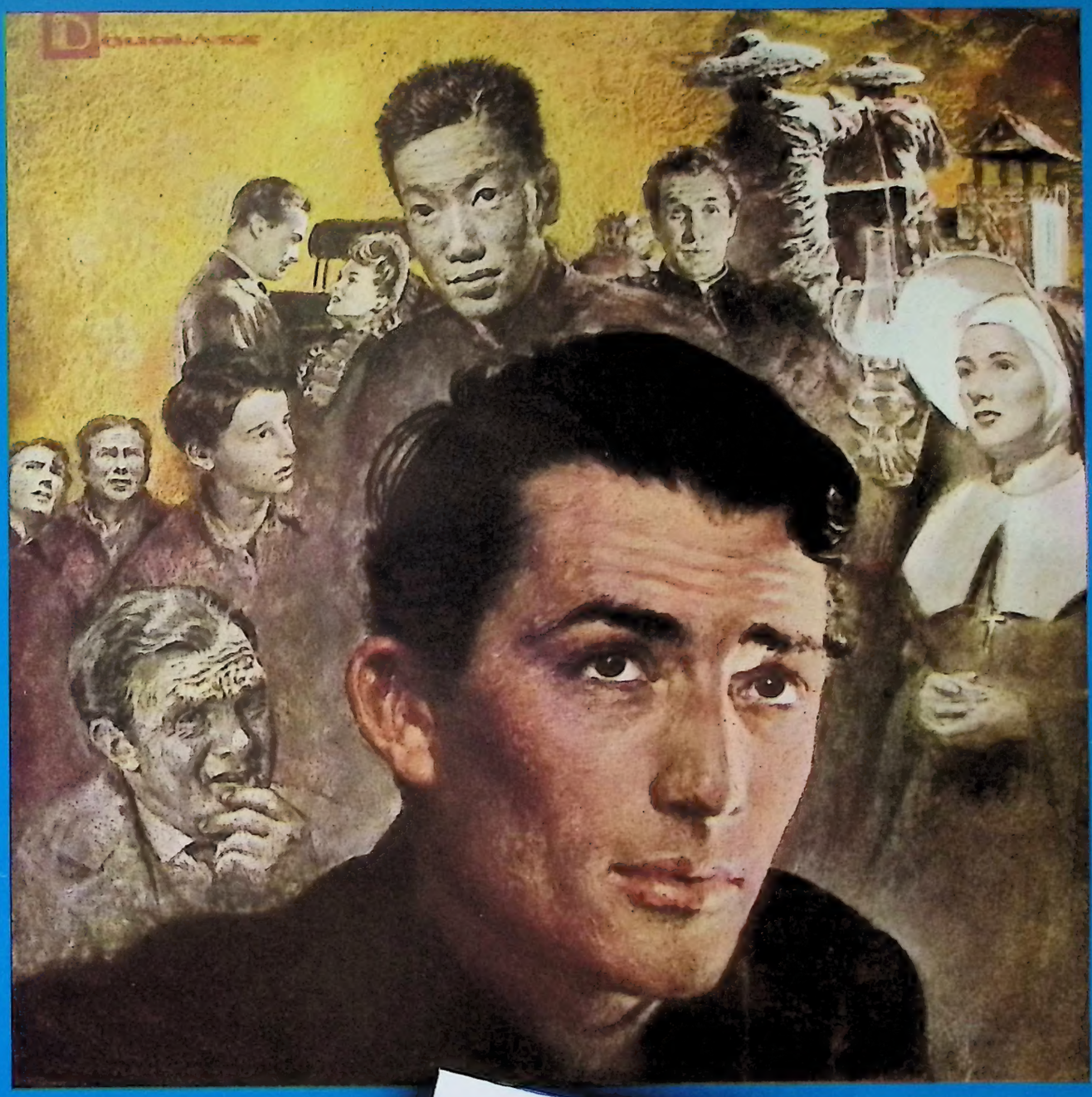
Directed by ERLE C. KENTON

Produced by WARREN WILSON • A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

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SIGN UP NOW! A GREATER DRIVE IN '45!
MARCH OF DIMES (JAN. 25-31)

PRINTED IN U. S. A.



20th Century-Fox

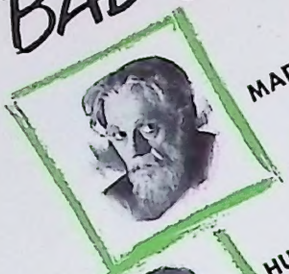
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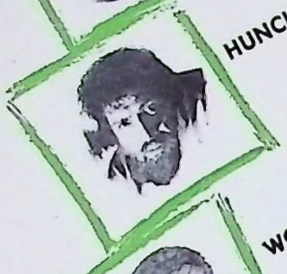




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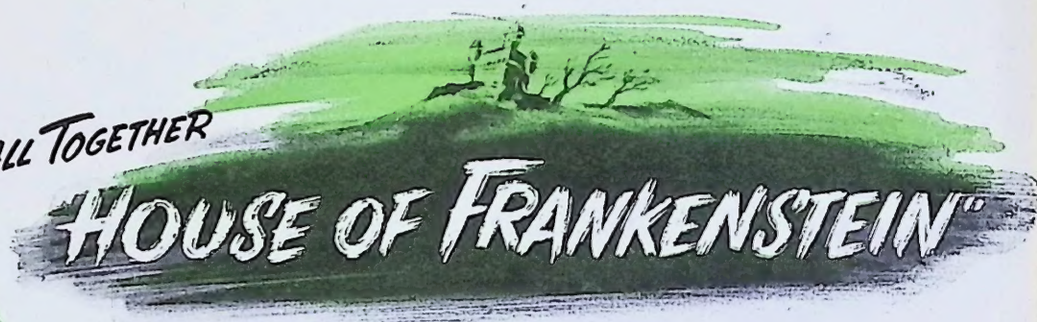






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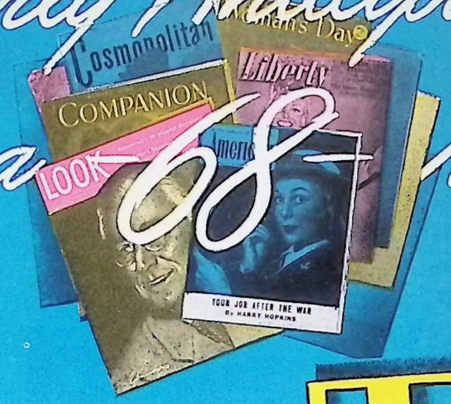
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PEGGY ANN GARNER
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AS DR. FISKE


ANNE REVERE
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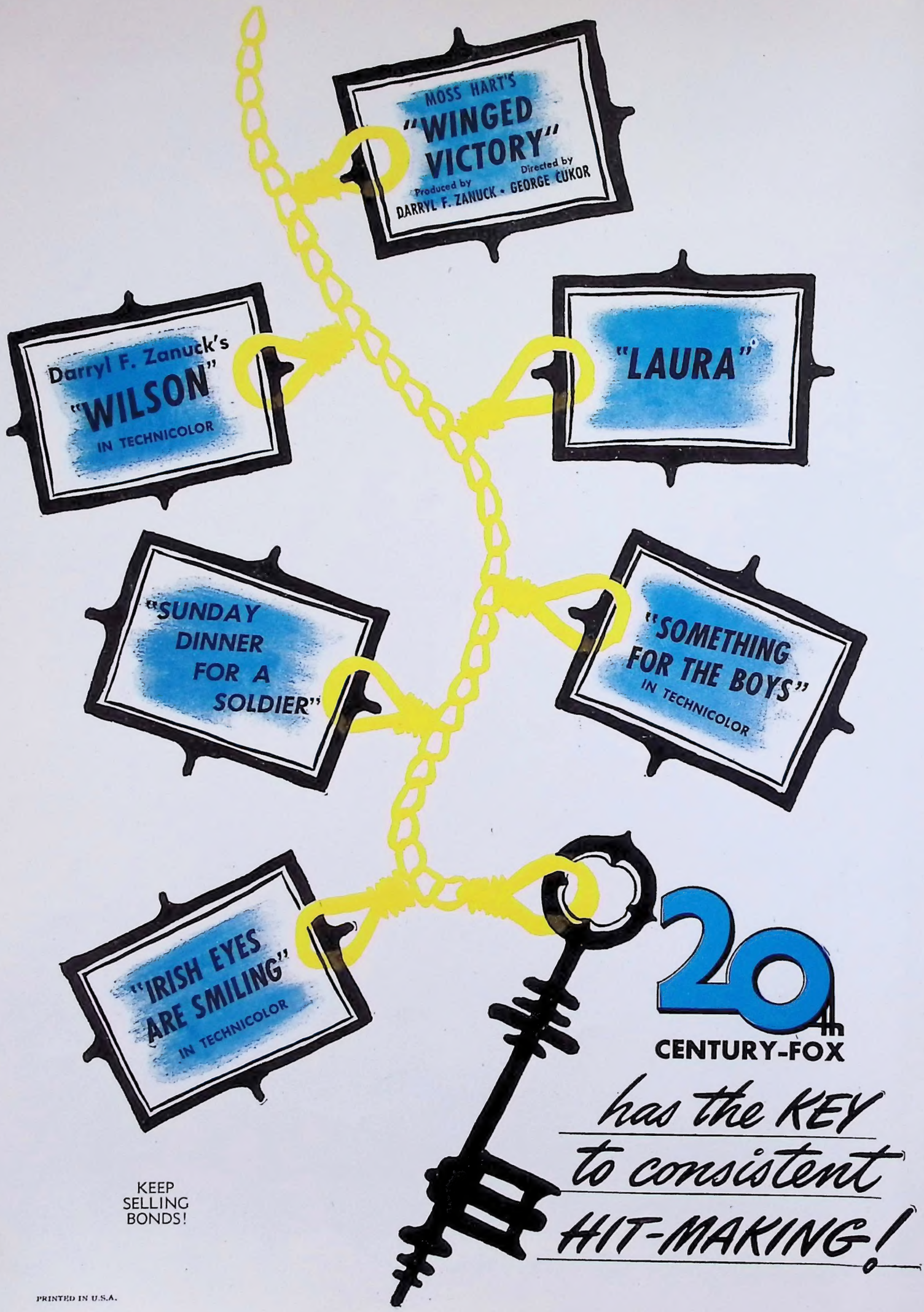

BENSON FONG
AS JOSEPH


LEONARD STRONG
AS MR. CHIA

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DIRECTED BY JOHN M. STAHL · PRODUCED BY JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ · SCREEN PLAY BY JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ AND NUNNALLY JOHNSON · FROM THE NOVEL BY A. J. CRONIN

Magazines . . . radio . . . billboards tell the millions that a sensational best-seller has become a memorable screen triumph from 20th *Century-Fox*



PRINTED IN U.S.A.



MORRIS MILLIGAN

Everyone will be glad to hear that he won a decision over the guy with the white beard and scythe and will be brightening up the haunts of the trade soon. Morris, still in the hospital, had pneumonia.

Tidbits-and-Bites

Harry Bercovitch, Odeon partner from Regina, was in town last week and Sydney Samson and Haskell Masters took him to dinner in Chinatown. Chow Mein, etc., as you probably know, doesn't have enough body to sink your teeth into. And such is its composition that things disappear into it like a shovel into soft mud. When mud suddenly, for any reason, reverses its direction, the shovel is apt to go with it.

After all that vague prattling, I might say that Harry suddenly and unexpectedly lost his china choppers. It needed small-sized grappling irons to retrieve them. And since there weren't any around at the time — and since my information ends there — I wonder did Harry get them back?

They Like Him

There isn't any doubt that Haskell Masters is one of the most popular upper bracket boys in the Canadian industry — and not just with the others in the same deduction group. The boys and girls who worked for Haskell in the head offices of Odeon have maintained a constant crush on him and his departure from that company was met with regret that almost became mourning.

The office staff presented Haskell with a box of cigars. His secretary, Lil Levey, who is also leaving, was given a book.

Although Haskell hasn't announced plans for the future, he'll be back in the business no doubt. He has too many friends hereabouts to stay away long.



America's Newest Hobby

From the News Bulletin, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science

"If England is to be characterized as a country of shopkeepers," a visitor to these shores once remarked, "and China a land of scholars and seers, then the United States may be termed a nation of collectors, for Americans collect anything and everything: sea shells, stamps, old motorcar plaques, and a most curious hobby of all, cinema photographs."

The visitor was referring to "still" collectors, those people who gather scenes and publicity shots of Hollywood's motion picture productions. Still collecting in an organized fashion is probably one of America's latest hobbies, but one that is growing in interest and in the number of collectors.

There is a serious aspect to this hobby, too, and one of the finest of all motion picture still collections—and there are reportedly thousands of them—is the one held by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science, the Hollywood institution which annually holds the Academy Awards Event for outstanding pictures, performances and technical achievements. The Academy owns about 20,000 stills with an evaluation of $50,000. The value is purely relative since a majority of the stills in the Academy Collection could never be replaced.

A Few Each Year

The Academy job of selecting each year a few of the best stills from almost all of Hollywood's annual output of some 500 feature-length productions is in itself a monumental task. Hollywood turns out about 100,000 different still pictures each year, representing publicity shots and scenes from features, short subjects and documentaries. Because of the astronomical proportions of the problems the Academy restricts itself to no more than six to 10 stills from the annual production output in Hollywood.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences now has a complete file of stills of pictures made since 1927, the year of the Academy's organization. From time to time as a result of donations — some of them by collectors themselves — and through the cooperation of Hollywood studios the Academy has succeeded in building up its collection of stills from pictures made before 1927, so that at present the Collection is fairly complete from 1915 on with a scattering of earlier stills.

They're Worth Money

As in all collecting hobbies Still Collecting has its rarities and high prices. One private collector, for example, paid $100 for a set of 20 stills from the Hollywood film classic, D. W. Griffith's "Birth of a Nation." Other fine collector's items that bring high prices are scenes from "Mary Queen of Scots" with Sarah Bernhardt (1895) "The New York Hat" with Mary Pickford and Lionel Barrymore (1912) and any stills from "Intolerance" (1916). Age naturally determines rarity, although scenes from Academy Award winning pictures have also become fine collector items.

In addition to its outstanding collection of Hollywood stills, the Academy also has an important collection of stills from foreign pictures. Through the cooperation of official British, Russian and Canadian film agencies among other nations, the Academy has acquired a sizeable representation of the best feature and documentary films of other lands.

The entire collection is a pictorial revue of the world making motion pictures of the world and how it has lived during the years since Edison's invention fifty years ago.

Might Be

A fellow who ought to be able to provide a good opinion about the possibility of so many new theatres springing up after the war said something worth thinking about. We were talking about several theatres being erected in the same zone and he observed: "Might just be a battle of signs."

Ship Ahoy

About three dozen filmites will be guests of The Royal Canadian Naval Film Society at a luncheon conference aboard the HMCS York on February 20. The Honorary Board of Supply is made up of industry men. There will be a short tour to observe normal training in progress.

Notes

Ed Wells, secretary of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, took a first-hand look at the state of things during his recent coast-to-coast trip . . . Morris Milligan, you'll be glad to hear, is coming along nicely now and should be out of the hospital in a couple of weeks. There was a time during his illness when he was given less than an even chance to see his friends again but he fought his way out in great fashion . . . The Goldhar boys went to Detroit to attend the wedding of the daughter of brother Jack, who is the United Artists' boss in the Motor City. . . . The Imperial staff presented Manager Tom Daley with an antique rule and sterling silver case in honor of the FPCC anniversary . . . Phil Ulster, who says that he's the youngest union class A projectionist, wants to be the youngest exhibitor. It's his tenth year in the business . . . This is really some country for weather. During his recent trip Leo Devaney, RKO chief, ran into 35 below in Winnipeg, 45 above in Calgary and four days of rain in Vancouver.

How About It?

I would appreciate it if you lazy guys and gals will fill in our ballot for the "Ten Bests" and send it back here in a hurry.

Story

The announcement that 5,757 Canadian servicemen have lost their sight during this war brings to mind that touching story which appeared recently in some newspapers. You may have missed it.

A blind man had his life made easier by the guidance of a Seeing Eye dog. This dog was well-disciplined, intelligent and devoted and the blind man had a great love for it.

Then in some fashion the admirable qualities of the dog began to leave him. The blind man began to feel that, because of seeming carelessness and indifference, the dog was no longer so devoted as formerly. It made mistakes and seemed distracted. The blind man was puzzled.

He spoke of this to a friend, who had the formerly faithful guide examined.

The dog was almost blind. For three months cataracts on both eyes had impaired its sight.

The blind leading the blind.

Observation

It takes all kinds of people to make a world—and a bad one at that.







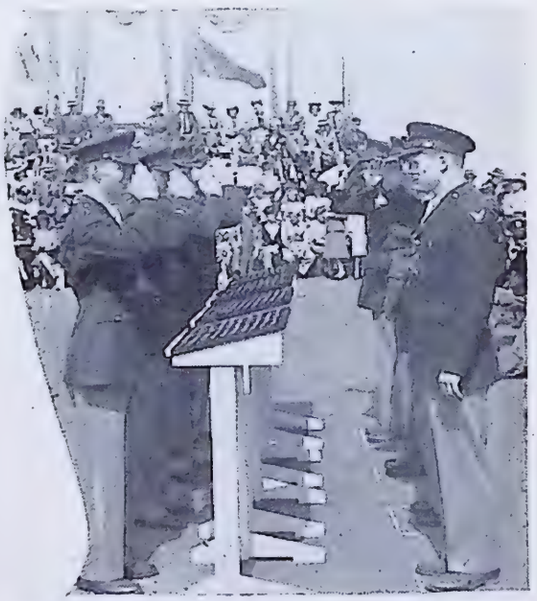
20th-Fox 'Winged Victory' A Top-Notch Film Drama

"WINGED VICTORY," the much-talked-of play by Moss Hart, has become a motion picture under the sponsorship of Twentieth Century-Fox and the direction of George Cukor.

It is an exceedingly fine film and the fact that it is frankly American will do little to reduce the interest of Canadians in it. This is because it is not a battle-field picture but rather one in which the human element is emphasized. There is no glorification of USA arms but a presentation of the collective and personal experiences of many men from the time they join until they reach their baptism of fire. So well is this done that it becomes the kind of emotional experience that is above geographical boundaries.

Among those who are prominent in the large cast are Pvt. Lon McCallister, Sgt. Edmund O'Brien, Cpl. Lee J. Cobb, Cpl. Alan Baxter, Cpl. Barry Nelson, Jeanne Craine and Jane Ball.











THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Film Weekly

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 10, No. 7 | REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK | $2.00 Per Annum

The Master Race

with George Coulouris

RKO 96 Mins.

TIMELY AND VITAL PRODUCTION IS RATED AS AN EXPLOITATION NATURAL.

As timely as tomorrow, "The Master Race" is a burning and earnest indictment of the Junker spirit in Germany. After seeing it one understands more clearly why Germany must be cured of the disease of militarism. Here indeed is a purposeful film carrying to the world a message of supreme importance. To see it might well be considered a duty on the part of all concerned with the future peace of the world.

Although as a film "The Master Race" is inferior to "Hitler's Children," it is an exploitation natural that financially should fare no less handsomely than the earlier Edward A. Golden production.

Despite the fact the story doesn't do justice to the sensational quality of the subject matter, it is dramatically arresting and effectively and competently produced by Robert Golden.

The tale deals with an insidious plot to lay the groundwork for a third world war to preserve the fiction of the master race. The idea is to sow discord among the Allied nations and then strike when the moment is ripe.

The cast makes up in ability for what it lacks in name strength. George Coulouris runs away with the acting honors as the main plotter.

CAST: George Coulouris, Stanley Ridges, Osa Massen, Carl Esmond, Nancy Gates, Morris Carnovsky, Lloyd Bridges, Eric Feldary, Helen Beverly, Gavin Muir, Paul Guilfoyle, Richard Nugent, Louis Donath, Herbert Rudley, Jason Robards, Merrill Roden, Chislaine Porreau.

CREDITS: Producer, Robert Golden; Director, Herbert J. Biberman; Screenplay, Herbert J. Biberman, Anne Froelick, Rowland Leigh; Based on story by Herbert J. Biberman; Cameraman, Russell Metty; Art Directors, Albert S. D'Agostino, Jack Okey; Set Decorators, Darrell Silvera, Al Fields; Sound, Francis M. Sarver; Musical Score, Roy Webb; Musical Director, C. Bakaleinikoff; Film Editor, Ernie Leadley.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

John Meredith Passes

John Meredith, 61, who became doorman at the Capitol Theatre, St. Thomas, Ontario, when it opened its doors 13 years ago, passed away in that city after an illness of a year and a half. He was admired by all who knew him and his passing caused many regrets.

Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo

with Van Johnson, Spencer Tracy

M-G-M 138 Mins.

STORY OF DOOLITTLE RAID IS EXCITING, MOVING ENTERTAINMENT SURE OF SMASH B. O.

The fame that has accrued to the Doolittle raid on the Japanese homeland makes "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" a box office natural beyond any question of a doubt. The production, a giltedge achievement by Producer Sam Zambalist with high-caliber direction by Mervyn LeRoy, is big and sweeping, with touches of the sensational in its almost-documentary stretches.

Packing power and excitement out of the usual, the film tells with unflagging interest the story of the Doolittle air attack. When the picture sticks to the preparations for and the execution of the raid it is a tense, gripping document scarcely equalled on the screen.

The film is built around the part played in the raid by Major Ted W. Lawson, a lieutenant at the time. The role is in the hands of Van Johnson, who dominates the film. The part of Doolittle, a more or less minor one is enacted by Spencer Tracy.

The tale, never losing sight of human values, has a world of romantic embroidery. The relationship between Johnson and his bride, Phyllis Thaxter, is filled with tenderness and sweetness that will have the femmes on the verge of tears.

The film has been drawn out unreasonably. Cutting would give it greater speed and tightness.

Johnson easily gives his best screen performance. Tracy makes the most of every appearance. Miss Thaxter, a newcomer, has much to recommend her. Robert Walker stands out also.

CAST: Van Johnson, Robert Walker, Spencer Tracy, Phyllis Thaxter, Tim Murdock, Scott McKay, Gordon McDonald, Don DeFore, Robert Mitchum, John R. Reilly, Horace McNally, Donald Curtis, Louis Jean Heydt, William "Bill" Phillips, Douglas Cowan, Paul Langton, Leon Ames.

CREDITS: Producer, Sam Zimbalist; Director, Mervyn LeRoy; Screenplay, Dalton Trumbo; Based on book and magazine story by Capt. Ted W. Lawson, Robert Considine; Cameramen, Harold Rosson, Robert Surtees; Musical Score, Herbert Stothart; Recording Director, Douglas Shearer; Art Directors, Cedric Gibbons, Paul Groesse; Set Decorators, Edwin B. Willis, Ralph S. Hurst; Special Effects, A. Arnold Gillespie, Warren Newcombe, Donald Jahraus; Film Editor, Frank Sullivan.

DIRECTION, Aces. PHOTOGRAPHY, Aces.

One Body Too Many

with Jack Haley, Jean Parker and Bela Lugosi

Paramount 74 Mins.

JACK HALEY GOES TO TOWN IN A SWELL COMEDY THRILLER, ABLY DIRECTED.

Jack Haley really goes to town in this comedy thriller. It's a romp for him and he piles up many laughs. Director Frank McDonald effectively guided the proceedings, while Bill Pine and Bill Thomas functioned as producers. Winston Miller and Maxwell Shane wrote the original story and screenplay.

Jean Parker and Bela Lugosi are co-starred with Haley. Bernard Nedell, Blanche Yurka, Douglas Fowley, Lyle Talbot and Lucien Littlefield are among the important principals.

Haley is an insurance salesman and has an appointment with a wealthy prospect, who is an enthusiastic devotee of astrology. Jack comes to his home and is mistaken for a private investigator, who is to guard the coffin containing the body of the prospect, whose death is unknown to Haley.

The heirs of the dead man have assembled at his mansion to hear his will read by his attorney, Nedell. Lugosi, the butler, Blanche Yurka, the housekeeper, and William Edmunds, an astrologer, are among the strange figures in the household. There are some slayings and other complications before the final clinch, with Haley and Jean Parker in each other's arms.

CAST: Jack Haley, Jean Parker, Bela Lugosi, Bernard Nedell, Blanche Yurka, Douglas Fowley, Dorothy Granger, Lyle Talbot, Lucien Littlefield, Ray Helm, Maxine Fine, William Edmunds.

CREDITS: Producers, Bill Pine and Bill Thomas; Director, Frank McDonald; Authors, Winston Miller and Maxwell Shane; Screenplay, same; Cameraman, Fred Jackman, Jr.; Art Director, F. Paul Sylos; Editor, Howard Smith.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Vancouver Pioneers Elect Neville

Cecil S. Neville, was recently elected president of the British Columbia Branch of the Canadian Picture Pioneers.

Morrell is Prexy

George Morrell is the 1945 president of the Toronto Suburban Managers' Association, an FPCC group. Maurice Doyle is vice-president, Allan, Easson treasurer and Jay Smith is secretary.

She Gets Her Man

with Joan Davis, William Gargan, Leon Errol

Universal 74 Mins.

FAST-PACED COMEDY OFFERS JOAN DAVIS FANS PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITY FOR LAUGHS.

The comic spirit of Joan Davis triumphs over the indifferent material at her disposal to make "She Gets Her Man" pretty good fun for the family trade. Intelligence has been booted into the background in the determination to squeeze as much laughter as possible out of the script. Under Erle C. Kenton's direction the action, which is not above descending to slapstick, is furious and constant.

Miss Davis is enlisted by the editor of a small-town paper to meet the demand of the citizenry for a person of courage and ability to halt a murderer who has thrown the community into a panic. The people place faith in her on the strength of her late mother's fine record as police chief. Aided by Leon Errol, a member of the police force, Miss Davis blunders along in an attempt to find the murderer. Only fool's luck makes it possible for her to solve the case.

Produced acceptably by Warren Wilson, who did the screenplay in association with Clyde Bruckman, the film bolsters its entertainment value through the support accorded Miss Davis by Errol and William Gargan, a reporter who stirs our heroine romantically.

CAST: Joan Davis, William Gargan, Leon Errol, Vivian Austin, Russell Hicks, Virginia Sale, Cy Kendall, Paul Stanton, Emmet Vogan, Donald McBride, Milburn Stone, Ian Keith.

CREDITS: Producer, Warren Wilson; Director, Erle C. Kenton; Screenplay, Warren Wilson, Clyde Bruckman; Additional Dialogue, Ray Singer, Dick Chevillat; Cameraman, Jerry Ash; Art Directors, John B. Goodman, Robert Clatsworthy; Sound Supervisor, Bernard B. Brown; Set Decorators, Russell Gausman, Leigh Smith; Film Editor, Paul Landres.

DIRECTION, Fair. PHOTOGRAPHY, Okay.

Republic Will Build Million-Dollar 'Road'

Republic will spend a million dollars on Joseph Kane's "Glory Road," story of the first Pony Express. Kane is also set as producer and director.

This is Republic's second million-dollar western. "The Fabulous Texan," with Bill Elliot, is the and will roll when okay weather reports come in from Texas and Arizona.

LISTEN TO 'EM CHEER

"MELODRAMA AT ITS BEST!"

"This is the kind of a picture a showman can endorse to his friends as well as to his customers. It is murder-mystery-melodrama at its best—brisk, brittle and brighter than most dollars—with Dick Powell, Anne Shirley, Claire Trevor, Otto Kruger and other skilled players out-doing themselves in a production that is bigger and better than any or all of them."
— MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"OF SMASH CALIBRE!"

"Joins the select circle of big box-office crime pictures as one of the best of them all . . . A brilliantly done, fast action, suspenseful murder mystery with a plot well off the beaten path, blessed with crisp, flashing humor . . . A socko of smash calibre."
— HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"CRAMMED WITH THRILLS!"

"Exciting moments crammed with thrills and chills . . . A swift-moving melodrama which is effective in plot and presentation."
— MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"CARRIES A PUNCH!"

"Strong melodramatic entertainment effectively produced . . . The film carries a punch and the story has been worked out interestingly . . . Dick Powell delivers his best performance as the dick."
— FILM DAILY

"A STALWART CONTENDER!"

"Here's another whodunit in the grand and modern manner and one which can safely be catalogued as a stalwart contender in any field. Exciting, suspenseful and dramatic, the picture abounds in the spine-tingling situations upon which devotees of mysteries dote."
— BOX OFFICE

"WILL DELIGHT ALL!"

"A vital, passionately violent detective story of rapid action and swift pace that will delight all . . . Good for any situation. . . . Has an electric quality of tension and murderous directness . . . The word-of-mouth will run away with your advertising."
— SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"REMEMBER 'MALTESE FALCON'?"

"Remember 'The Maltese Falcon?'. Well, here is another gripping and suspenseful mystery thriller, masterfully directed, well played . . . A directorial triumph in suspense . . . Interest held and often heightened to the point of breathless absorption."
— FILM BULLETIN

FOR *The NEW*

Dick POWELL

rough...tough...terrific!

Claire TREVOR • Anne SHIRLEY

Murder, My Sweet

(Tradeshown and reviewed as "Farewell My Lovely")

with

OTTO KRUGER • MIKE MAZURKI • MILES MANDER

DOUGLAS WALTON • DON DOUGLAS



RKO RADIO PICTURES

Produced by Adrian Scott • Directed by Edward Dmytryk

Screen Play by John Paxton

Indies See End Of Conciliation

(Continued from Page 1)

Davidson and Herman Bennett.

John Grierson, national film commissioner, was the speaker at the luncheon of the association. He described the purpose of the National Film Board and its place in post-war Canada. "Mr. Grierson certainly pointed out a lot of things we were not familiar with," an executive officer said, "and made us more appreciative



BEN FREEDMAN

He was returned to office as president of the Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Ontario.

of the work of the National Film Board, particularly 'Canada Carries On' and 'World in Action'."

Ben Freedman, Long Branch, was reelected president by acclamation, while Bruce McLeod, Kitchener, was elected vice-president, replacing Harry Lester.

Harry Romberg was reelected secretary and Harry Lester became treasurer, replacing Sam Strashin. Garson Solway continues as public relations counsel.

Herman Bennett and Lou Davidson were given places on the board of directors, replacing Tom Walton and Sam Strashin. M. Starkman is also a member of the board.

Pasternak Readies 'Face' for O'Brien

MGM plans to star Margaret O'Brien in "The Face of Heaven," an original by Robert Nathan. Pasternak will produce, making his fifth under preparation.

Pic will follow "Three Wise Fools," in which Margaret appears with Lionel Barrymore, Frank Morgan and Lewis Stone.

Western FPCC 25rs Meet in Vanc'r

(Continued from Page 1)

president, Vancouver Sun; Mr. D. A. Hamilton, president Vancouver News Herald; Mr. E. Hodges, editor, Victoria Times; Mrs. Nancy Hodges, M.L.A., of Victoria; Mr. A. E. Douglas, legal advisor, Famous Players; Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager, Paramount Pictures; B. E. Norrish, president, Associated Screen News, Montreal and Victor Armand.

Jack Chisholm of Associated Screen News and his crew set up their cameras and studio lights and photographed the entire ceremony in technicolor and in sound to be added to the film record made in Toronto.

Senator Farris Speaks

The principal speaker of the evening was Famous Players' director, Senator J. W. de B. Farris, who declared that as a director of the company he was proud to be associated with a corporation held in such high regard by the people of Canada.

Senator Farris recalled the days in British Columbia 25 years ago when he was chief censor and described the growth of the motion picture industry and the place it plays in the lives of Canadian people.

"No business will succeed that does not realize its responsibility and be prepared to shoulder its full share of responsibility in the community," said Senator Farris. "By continuing to do its part the motion picture industry will become greater.

"Because of Famous Players' existence the people of Canada have higher ideals, a better and brighter outlook on life," he said.

The senator's brother, the Chief Justice of British Columbia, Hon. Wendell B. Farris, a former director of the Company, told of the work being done by the motion picture industry as a war service, particularly in the field of films made for the rehabilitation of ex-service men in convalescent homes.

Leslie Voices Appreciation

J. J. Fitzgibbons, in presenting the awards to the 25 Year Club members from Vancouver and Victoria, traced the history of the company and of the formation of the 25 Year Club.

"We are here to pay homage to those men and women of this company who have contributed so much to our development and progress during the past quarter century," said Mr. Fitzgibbons.

The ten honored employees who received certificates of appreciation, inscribed watches or Victory Bonds, jeweled pins of membership in the 25 Year Club were: Miss Adrienne Caze, cashier of the Kerrisdale theatre, Vancouver; Mrs. Annie Johnstone, cashier of the Broadway theatre, Vancouver; Frank Gow, supervisor of Vancouver suburban and British Columbia up-country theatres; Harold Edwards, projectionist in the Dominion theatre, Victoria; Sam Haigh, projectionist in the Capitol theatre, Vancouver; Ray Hansom, projectionist in the Broadway theatre, Vancouver; James Leslie, projectionist in the Orpheum theatre, Vancouver; William G. More, projectionist in the Capitol theatre, Vancouver; Cecil S. Neville, chief booker for British Columbia; John M. Robertson, manager of the Capitol theatre, Victoria.

On behalf of his fellow-members, James Leslie expressed appreciation of the honors that had been bestowed upon them and the hope that they may long continue to serve the public through Famous Players.

Other speakers included R. W. Bolstad, vice-president of Famous Players, L. I. Bearg, Western general manager, Frank H. Gow and Frank H. Kershaw, British Columbia superisors; Mayor J. W. Cornett and Mrs. Nancy Hodges, M.L.A.

During the latter part of the dinner the lights were dimmed and two husky chefs in their picturesque white uniforms, marched in with a monster birthday cake on their shoulders. The cake was topped with 25 silver and blue candles and to Miss Caze and Mrs. Johnstone went the honor of cutting the first slice.

Indians Honor "Fitz"

An unscheduled event on the program proved to be one of the highlights of the occasion. Larry Bearg told the gathering that everyone had a boss and that tonight he was going to introduce Mr. Fitzgibbons' boss. Dressed in Indian costume, Chief Andy Paull of the Squamish Indian tribe and president of the North American Indian Brotherhood, presented Mr. Fitzgibbons, as a fellow-chief, a card of membership in the continent-wide organization composed of Indian chiefs. He also presented Chief Moving Shadows with a thunder bird totem pole of the Squamish.

Chief Paull, who is a lawyer, made an eloquent speech in which he said that Mr. Fitzgibbons was the only white man in America to be honored with membership in this organization of Indian chiefs. Mr. Fitzgibbons, taken completely by surprise by the appearance of the chief, thanked him for the honor. "I'll try to be a good Indian," he said.

Arrangements for the dinner were in the capable hands of Larry Bearg, Frank Kershaw and George Clark with colorful decorations provided by Frank Phillips of the Vancouver sign shop.

Entertainment was provided by the famous Deep River Boys and other radio and stage entertainers.

Honor Masters At Luncheon

(Continued from Page 1)

vice-president and general manager.

Tom J. Bragg, acting as chairman, expressed the sentiments of all present when he remarked that Haskell had established a strong bond of friendship with all during the three years he was with the company.

Masters was presented with a crystal set of steins and a handwrought sterling tray by his former associates.

Howard Boothe, British Columbia supervisor, and Harry Bercovitch, Regina partner of Odeon, were guests. A wire regretting his inability to be present was received from Paul L. Nathanson, president of Odeon, who was in Hollywood on business.

No successor has been named yet and it is thought that the administration of the company's theatres will be divided among a number of executives.

Haskell and Mrs. Masters are vacationing. He has not made his plans known. Masters has resigned as vice-president of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, now that he is not actively connected with theatres.

No Reshuffle in Sask. Distrib'n

(Continued from Page 1)

that. Although there has been considerable talk about the possibility, nothing that favored it came out during a recent meeting between the Hon. C. C. Williams, minister of labor, and Leo Devaney and Ed Welles, president and executive secretary respectively of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association.

So far the only action relating to motion pictures has been the raising of censorship fees.

At present Saskatchewan territory is fed films by two distribution centres—Calgary, Alberta, and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Saskatchewan exhibitors have always favored distribution from Regina because of the saving in express costs.

Will Fight Ban On Owl Shows

(Continued from Page 1)

fected when the proposed by-law is brought back before the commissioners by the City Solicitor, who framed it in legal terms, for final disposition.

The only nights given as the exceptions to the ban are Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. On all other nights no shows may be held between the hours of 11.45 p.m. and 8 a.m.

Representations from religious groups and the support of Chief of Police Dennis Draper were responsible for the question being raised before the police commission. Theatre men were not notified of the impending discussion and had no opportunity to state their case.

There are about 15 Toronto theatres which offer midnight shows and these are well patronized.

"Midnight shows constitute a definite menace," Mayor Saunders declared.

Magistrate Robert Brown claimed that six days of theatre operation were enough and that midnight shows kept young people up late. A police sergeant testified that people, when questioned after midnight, said that they were coming from a midnight show. "There is nothing much we can do," he said.

Fox Will Initiate Trade Screenings

Harry Bailey, Toronto branch manager of 20th Century-Fox, announces that the company's short subjects will be screened for exhibitors each Thursday at 2.30 p.m.

Exhibs will get a chance to check on the latest Terrytoon "Mighty Mouse" color reels, March of Time, Movietone Adventures (Technicolor) news, sport and other subjects.

It is a welcome innovation.

S. James Awarded Br. Empire Medal

Hon. J. E. Michaud, minister of transport, said in Ottawa last week he had been advised that Ordinary Seaman Somer Oscar James, a native of Toronto, now living in Manchester, Eng., has been awarded the British Empire medal "for services when his ship was attacked by the enemy."

James was serving on a merchant vessel of British registry. There is no record in the transport department's registry that he has ever served on a ship of Canadian registry.

He was a member of the staff of Premier Operating, Toronto, and left there to serve on the seas.

When Indians Meet



For "skookum" services J. J. Fitzgibbons (Chief Moving Shadows of the Sarcees) was honored by Chief Andy Paull in behalf of the Squamish Indians of British Columbia. Chief Andy presented Fitz with a hand-carved thunderbird totem pole and also made him a member of the North American Indian brotherhood, an organization of chiefs. Fitz is the only white chief ever honored in that way.

Ask Changes in Juve Matinees

Deploring the fact that apparently proper discretion is not exercised in the choice of motion picture films shown to audiences composed mostly of children, the Connaught Home and School Association of Ottawa at its meeting recently passed a resolution urging the Ontario Educational Association to advocate certain reforms in Saturday programs.

These reforms included the showing, on Saturdays and holidays, of films suitable for audiences of children and made up, in part, of a short film of an educational nature, preferably produced in Canada. Programs for juvenile audiences, the association contended, should start and end at a definite time and theatres should be cleared after each showing. Except in the cases of programs specially arranged for children, the law requiring children under 16 years to be accompanied by an adult should be strictly adhered to.

The association added that short films depicting items of particular interest to Canadians, including Canadian travelogs, should be shown frequently.

Opens in Nfld.

The Imperial Theatre opened recently in Botwood, Newfoundland, replacing the Empire, 200-seater destroyed by fire last year. It is being operated by a group of local business men.

Republic Signs Frank Borzage

Republic Pictures, in keeping with their ambitious plans to acquire top notch directors, stars and personalities, announced the signing of Frank Borzage, one of filmdom's outstanding directors, to a long term contract.

Borzage was one of the most sought after directors in the industry and after carefully analyzing his future and the future of every other producing company, he chose to join Republic.

It has been decided that Borzage will have his own producing unit and all of his pictures will cost in excess of a million and one-half dollars, with only the finest artists and stories that money and brains can secure. At present Borzage is directing "The Spanish Main," one of the most pretentious pictures ever filmed, starring Paul Henreid and Maureen O'Hara. Some of his other recent successes include "His Butler's Sister," starring Deanna Durbin, "Till We Meet Again," starring Ray Milland and the spectacular production, "Stage Door Canteen."

Other important announcements concerning Republic activities will soon be made.

'Musical Madness'

Universal last week handed Tom McKnight "Musical Madness" as his first producing assignment under recently signed pact.

NFB Libraries Are Expanding

National Film Board rental libraries are being established in many Canadian cities and towns and giving spur to the movies at home or at clubs. NFB library reels have become important in some cities while in others their handling is not nearly so well organized.

Sir George Williams College, Montreal, has made space available in its library for 118 NFB films, formerly taken care of by the Young Men's Section of the Montreal Board of Trade. The latter organization also supplied projectionists and equipment and will continue to offer them when necessary.

A librarian will be in charge of the films. Bookings are made two weeks in advance and the films may be kept for a little while. Films are rented at a nominal charge for handling and are shown before church groups, lodges, service clubs, educational bodies and private groups.

NFB service in Toronto is provided from its new quarters on Bloor street, the Workers Educational Association and the Young Men's Section of the Board of Trade being active in distribution and projection.

The films, some of which are in color and the rest in black and white, represent a wide range of subjects. A survey of the titles reveals the following: Letter From Camp Borden, Vitamins A, B. C and D, Women Are Warriors, Diary of a Polish Airman, Children From Overseas, Defeat Diphtheria, Atlantic Patrol, Fighting Norway, Mask of Nippon, Dutch Tradition, Ottawa, Wartime Capital, Banshees Over Canada, Five Men From Australia, Labor Front, Freedom of Aberfeldy, and Battle Is Our Business. Shortest film takes two minutes; longest 40.

New House Rumored For W. Vancouver

Reeve P. W. Field made it known recently that he had had discussions with theatre people about the possibility of opening a new theatre in West Vancouver, British Columbia. He was optimistic.

"I believe this to be of vital importance to our residents," the reeve said, "as a district of the size and population of West Vancauver is deserving of much better theatre facilities than we have at present."

The only theatre in West Vancouver at present is owned and operated by J. Howard Fletcher.







United Artists' 'Guest in the House' Has Plenty of Chills and Thrills

"GUEST IN THE HOUSE," a United Artists release of a Hunt Stromberg production of the stage play, is another of those films in which a wicked person trades on human kindness to undermine the faith and friendship that persons have towards each other. This film has been reported to be the best of that type to date.

The story is about a girl who is almost a mental case who schemes to upset the lives of those around her because she has fallen in love with the central masculine character.

A first-rate cast make "Guest in the House" a first-rate picture. Anne Baxter, as the neurotic guest, gives a finished performance. Ralph Bellamy, as the artist-host, and Ruth Warrick, his wife, play their roles well. Others in supporting roles are Aline MacMahon, Marie McDonald, Jerome Cowan, Percy Kilbride, Margaret Hamilton, Connie Laird and Scott McKay.







